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P. O. Box 272400  
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PATENT APPLICATION

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 200301955-2

IN THE  
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Richard B. WATSON, Jr., et al.

Confirmation No.: 5852

Application No.: 10/655,321

Examiner: M. L. Barbee

Filing Date: 09/04/2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

Title: CLOCK SKEW MEASUREMENT CIRCUIT ON A MICROPROCESSOR DIE

Mail Stop Appeal Brief-Patents  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1460  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1460TRANSMITTAL OF REPLY BRIEF

Sir:

Transmitted herewith in *triplicate* is the Reply Brief with respect to the Examiner's Answer mailed on 08/14/2005. This Reply Brief is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR 1.193(b) within two months of the date of the Examiner's Answer.

(Note: Extensions of time are not allowed under 37 CFR 1.136(a))

(Note: Failure to file a Reply Brief will result in dismissal of the Appeal as to the claims made subject to an expressly stated new grounds of rejection.)

No fee is required for filing of this Reply Brief.

If any fees are required please charge Deposit Account 08-2025.

( ) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1460.  
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Number of pages: 8

Typed Name: Mark E. Scott

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted,

Richard B. WATSON, Jr., et al.

By 

Mark E. Scott

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 43,100

Date: 07/15/2005

Telephone No.: (713) 238-8000

Rev 12/04 (ReplyBri)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Richard B. Watson, Jr, et al.	§	Confirmation No.:	5852
		§		
Serial No.:	10/655,321	§	Group Art Unit:	2857
		§		
Filed:	09/04/2003	§	Examiner:	Manuel L. Barbee
		§		
For:	Clock Skew Measurement	§	Docket No.:	200301955-2
	Circuit On A Microprocessor	§		
	Die	§		

**REPLY BRIEF**

Mail Stop Appeal Brief  
Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Date: July 15, 2005

Sir:

Receipt of the Examiner's Answer dated June 14, 2005 is acknowledged.  
Appellants reply as follows:

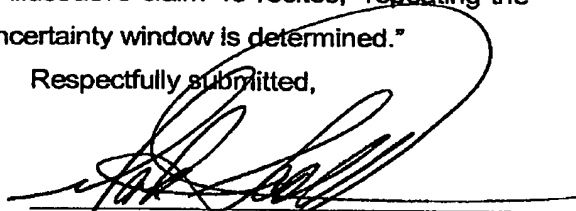
As Appellants understand the Examiner's Answer, the obviousness rejections of claims 27-28, 32 and 66 have been withdrawn. Thus, the only remaining issue before the Board is the alleged anticipation of claims 19-20, 23-24, 45, 49-50, 63 and 65, of which Appellants selected claim 45 as the representative claim.

With regard to the Section 102 rejections, Appellants' position is that interpreting the claims to cover changing the frequency of the test clock to achieve the claimed adjusting the phase relationship is an unreasonable interpretation. (See, e.g., Appeal Brief Page 15, paragraph spanning pages 15 and 16). The Examiner now seems to acknowledge the unreasonableness of the position by stating, "[C]hanging the frequency of the test clock **would not be reasonable** in this situation... ." Examiner's Answer page 7, first full paragraph (emphasis added). The Examiner's Answer then attempts to rely on Kelkar's adjustments to

**Appl. No. 10/655,321**  
**Reply Brief dated July 15, 2005**  
**Reply to Examiner's Answer dated June 14, 2005**

compensate for process variations; however, Appellants again point out that the 'adjustments' in this situation are only to keep the bins of Kelkar constant in spite of process variations, differences in temperature and differences in supply voltage. (Kelkar, Col. 6, lines 28-32). Whereas illustrative claim 45 recites, "repeating the adjusting and the comparing until the uncertainty window is determined."

Respectfully submitted,



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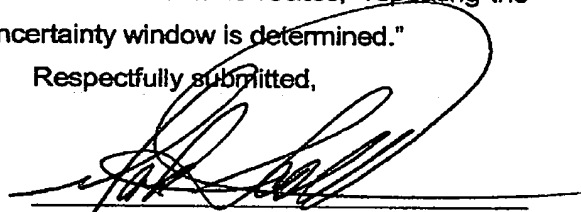
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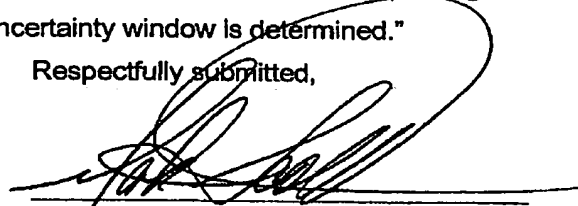
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